

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5146

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PASS AGRICULTURE FOR SECRETARY BERGLAND AND EDMINSTER,
SEA

STATE FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S SUPPORT FOR RELOCATION EUR.PAR.LAB.

REF: DREA/EDMINSTER TELECON JULY 12, 1978.

THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO SECRETARY BERGLAND WAS SIGNED BY
AMBASSADOR HARTMAN JULY 21 AND SENT AIRPOUCH:

"DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

ON JULY 12 I VISITED THE EUROPEAN PARASITE LABORATORY OF
THE S.E.A. AT SEVRES, FRANCE AND WAS VERY IMPRESSED BY
THE WORK DONE THERE ON BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF INSECT
PESTS. I WAS ALSO STRUCK BY THE PROBLEMS OF THE LABORA-
TORY IN ITS PRESENT INADEQUATE FACILITIES. HOWEVER, THE
USDA HAS ALREADY TAKEN ACTION LEADING TOWARD RELOCATING
AND COMBINING THIS LABORATORY AND A SIMILAR LABORATORY
FROM ROME, ITALY IN SOPHIA ANTIPOLIS RESEARCH PARK AT
VALBONNE NEAR ANTIBES, FRANCE. THIS PROPOSED LABORATORY
WOULD INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE U.S. BIOLOGICAL
CONTROL PROGRAM. I URGE THAT YOU SUPPORT THIS RELOCATION
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AND I AM PREPARED TO GIVE WHATEVER ASSISTANCE I CAN TO
FACILITATE IT.

THE NEW LABORATORY WOULD PROVIDE MUCH NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS
IN FACILITIES AND WOULD REDUCE THE NUMBER OF U.S. PERSON-
NEL STATIONED OVERSEAS BY REPLACING THEM WITH EUROPEAN
SCIENTISTS THEREBY ENHANCING THE CONTINUITY OF THE

SCIENTIFIC STAFF AND OF THE PROGRAM. THE SOPHIA ANTIPO-
LIS RESEARCH PARK WOULD ALSO BE A MORE DESIRABLE SITE FOR
MEETING PROGRAM OBJECTIVES. CLOSER COOPERATION WOULD BE
POSSIBLE WITH THE THREE NEARBY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL
LABORATORIES SPONSORED BY OTHER NATIONS.

THERE IS A NEED FOR AN EARLY DECISION AND I URGE THAT
YOU APPROVE THE RELOCATION. THE SITE HAS BEEN HELD OPEN
BY THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE FOR TWO YEARS ON A "GENTLE-
MAN'S AGREEMENT" BUT THE RESEARCH PARK IS RAPIDLY BEING
FILLED. NOW THEY HAVE REQUESTED POSITIVE ACTION BY THE
UNITED STATES OR THEY WILL RELEASE OUR HIGHLY DESIRABLE
SITE TO ANOTHER ORGANIZATION".

HARTMAN

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